

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

BEBOP IMPROVISATION IN GUITAR

CASE STUDY: *STOMPIN' AT THE SAVOY* BY KENNY BURRELL.

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Declaration of Authorship

“I declare that this thesis is the result of my own work with the exception of the ideas and summaries which I have clarified their sources. This thesis has not been accepted for any degree and is not concurrently submitted as candidature for any degree”

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research study is to extend the information on the characteristic and technique of *Bebop Improvisation in Guitar*. In order to get the exact interpretation and language of bebop style, characteristic and technique of guitar playing must be applied. For the purpose of this fundamental research topic, I have focused towards improvisation analysis based on the tunes; *Stompin' at the Savoy* by Kenny Burrell which was composed over advanced I-IV-II-V progression. Kenny Burrell one of the most influential bebop guitarist in his era and until now, he will be the guidance and reference to nowadays modern player especially youngsters. His idea towards bebop music was tremendously awesome with approaching the correct element of bebop characteristic and technique in his improvisation such as melodic approach in rhythmic way for example; space, syncopation and triplet. He also mastered the technique in guitar playing for instance picking technique and left hand technique of guitar such as hammer on and pull off technique.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of study

The title of my research topic is: Bebop Improvisation in Guitar which focuses on the characteristics and techniques of bebop guitar. This research will base on Kenny Burrell solo transcription entitled Stompin' at the Savoy. In order to achieve my research topic, I have discovered two research questions which are:

- What are the characteristics in bebop improvisation?
- What are the significant techniques in bebop improvisation?

Research Objective

In all types of jazz music including swing, bebop and latin, improvisation part was one of the main character and basic element that set the different of jazz music from other types of music. Some researcher said that jazz improvisation can describe as the art of “composing in the moment”. However, a good improvisation still depends on the musicians or improviser creativity and level of ideas that they can bring it out on their